

CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA)

REQUEST TRANSMITTAL

Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing.
(Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(d))

CHECK BOX, if applicable:
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U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
ADDRESS TO:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box CPA
Washington, DC 20231

Attorney Docket No. of Prior Application	24050.042
First Named Inventor	Raimar Boehlke
Examiner Name	Azadeh Kokabi
Group Art Unit	3751
Express Mail Label No.	EV 255345324 US

This is a request for a continuation or divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(d),

(continued prosecution application (CPA)) of prior application number 09 / 847,676

Apparatus for Guiding Sutures through a
filed on 05/02/01, entitled Membrane Wall Near the Edge Region of an

Opening Provided Thereon.

NOTES

FILING QUALIFICATIONS: The prior application identified above must be a nonprovisional application that is either: (1) complete as defined by 37 CFR 1.51(b), or (2) the national stage of an international application in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 371. Effective May 29, 2000, a CPA may only be filed in a utility or a plant application if the prior nonprovisional application was filed before May 29, 2000. A CPA may be filed in a design application regardless of the filing date of the prior application. See "Request for Continued Examination Practice changes to and Provisional Application Practice," Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office (Apr. 11, 2000).

C-I-P NOT PERMITTED: A continuation-in-part application cannot be filed as a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d), but must be filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b).

EXPRESS ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA is a request to expressly abandon the prior application as of the filing date of the request for a CPA. 37 CFR 1.53(b) must be used to file a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of an application that is not to be abandoned.

ACCESS TO PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA will be construed to include a waiver of confidentiality by the applicant under 35 U.S.C. 122 to the extent that any member of the public who is entitled under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.14 to access to, copies of, or information concerning, the prior application may be given similar access to, copies of, or similar information concerning, the other application or applications in the file jacket.

35 U.S.C. 120 STATEMENT: In a CPA, no reference to the prior application is needed in the first sentence of the specification and none should be submitted. If a sentence referencing the prior application is submitted, it will not be entered. A request for a CPA is the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 120, and to every application assigned the application number identified in such request, 37 CFR 1.78(a).

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

- Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on _____ under 37 CFR 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application.
- A preliminary amendment is enclosed.
- This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, 37 CFR 1.53(d)(4).
 - DELETE** the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:

- The inventor(s) to be deleted are set forth on a separate sheet attached hereto.
- A new power of attorney or authorization of agent (PTO/SB/81) is enclosed.
- Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed:
 - PTO-1449
 - Copies of IDS Citations

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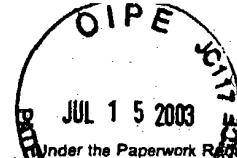
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Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.4 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box CPA, Washington, DC 20231.

(Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) Request Transmittal (PTO/SB/29)) [4-2.1]—page 1 of 2



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CLAIMS DENOMINATED	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS
	TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c) or (i))	37 -20* =	17	x \$ 18 =	\$ 306.00
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b) or (i))	2 -3** =	0	x \$ _____ =	0
	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) (37 CFR 1.16(d))			+ \$ _____ =	
				BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16)	750.00
				Total of above Calculations =	1056.00
	Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (Note 37 CFR 1.27).				528.00
	* Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent. ** Reissue independent claims over original patent.			TOTAL =	528.00

6. Small entity status: Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.7. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or charge the following fees to
Deposit Account No. 18 - 2222:

- a. Fees required under 37 CFR 1.16.
- b. Fees required under 37 CFR 1.17.
- c. Fees required under 37 CFR 1.18.

8. A check in the amount of \$ 528.00 is enclosed.9. Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.10. Applicant requests suspension of action under 37 CFR 1.103(b) for a period of _____ months
(not to exceed 3 months) and the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) is enclosed.11. New Attorney Docket Number, if desired 24050.042[Prior application Attorney Docket Number will carryover to this CPA unless a new Attorney Docket Number has been provided herein.]12. a. Receipt For Facsimile Transmitted CPA (PTO/SB/29A)b. Return Receipt Postcard (Should be specifically itemized, See MPEP 503)13. Other: _____

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NOTE:*The prior application's correspondence address will carry over to this CPA
UNLESS a new correspondence address is provided below.*

14. NEW CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

 Customer Number or Bar Code Label

021907

or New correspondence address below

(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)

Name	Thomas I. Rozsa			
	Rozsa & Chen LLP			
Address	15910 Ventura Boulevard			
	Suite 1601			
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Country	USA	Telephone	(818) 783-0990	Fax (818) 783-0992

15. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	Thomas I. Rozsa
Signature	<i>Thomas I. Rozsa</i>
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,210
Date	July 15, 2003

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